

General Assembly

Amendment

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LCO No. 5819

HB0663605819HD0

Offered by:

REP. NARDELLO, 89th Dist. REP. FONTANA, 87th Dist. REP. NAFIS, 27th Dist. REP. MCCLUSKEY, 20th Dist. REP. TERCYAK, 26th Dist. REP. SPALLONE, 36th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. **6636**

File No. 520

Cal. No. 351

"AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT CLEAN ENERGY FUND."

- After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and internal references accordingly:
- "Sec. 501. Section 16-244b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
 - (a) All customers of electric distribution companies, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act, shall have the opportunity to purchase electric generation services from their choice of electric suppliers, as defined in said section 16-1, in a competitive generation market in accordance with the schedule provided in this section. On and after January 1, 2000, up to thirty-five per cent of the peak load of each rate class of an electric company or electric distribution company, as the case may be, may choose an electric supplier to provide their electric generation services, provided such customers shall be located

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in distressed municipalities, as defined in section 32-9p. In the event 14 15 that the number of customers exceeds thirty-five per cent of such load, 16 preference shall be given to customers located in distressed 17 municipalities with a population greater than one hundred thousand 18 persons. Participation shall be determined on a first-come, first-served 19 basis. As of July 1, 2000, all customers shall have the opportunity to 20 choose an electric supplier. On and after January 1, 2000, electric 21 generation services shall be provided in accordance with section 16-22 244c, as amended by this act, to any customer who has not chosen an 23 electric supplier or has declined, failed or been unable to enter into or 24 maintain a contract for electric generation services with an electric 25 supplier. The Department of Public Utility Control may adopt 26 regulations in accordance with chapter 54 to implement the phase-in 27 schedule provided in this subsection.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, on and after January 1, 2010, customers with a maximum demand of less than one hundred kilowatts shall receive and pay for electric generation services, designated as standard service, from the electric distribution company in which service territory such customer takes electric service; provided (1) nothing in this section shall be interpreted as abrogating a customer's contract with an electric supplier that was executed and effective on or before the effective date of this section, and (2) any customer who is receiving electric generation services on or before the effective date of this section from an electric supplier and not from an electric distribution company may continue to receive electric generation services from such supplier or another electric supplier, provided, if such customers at any time elect to receive standard service from the electric distribution company, such customers shall remain on such standard service, and (3) nothing in this section shall preclude a customer from receiving standard service from the electric distribution company for electric generation services while also contracting for renewable energy credits from an electric supplier to support renewable energy, pursuant to a program approved by the department under subsection (e) of section 16-244c, as

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48 amended by this act. No customers who have a maximum demand of 49

- less than one hundred kilowatts may enter into contracts with an
- 50 electric supplier other than the electric distribution company for
- 51 electric generation services on or after the effective date of this section
- 52 except as provided in this subsection.
- 53 Sec. 502. Section 16-244c of the general statutes is repealed and the 54 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 55 (a) (1) On and after January 1, 2000, each electric distribution 56 company shall make available to all customers in its service area, the 57 provision of electric generation and distribution services through a 58 standard offer. Under the standard offer, a customer shall receive 59 electric services at a rate established by the Department of Public 60 Utility Control pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection. Each 61 electric distribution company shall provide electric generation services 62 in accordance with such option to any customer who affirmatively 63 chooses to receive electric generation services pursuant to the standard 64 offer or does not or is unable to arrange for or maintain electric 65 generation services with an electric supplier. The standard offer shall 66 automatically terminate on January 1, 2004. While providing electric 67 generation services under the standard offer, an electric distribution 68 company may provide electric generation services through any of its 69 generation entities or affiliates, provided such entities or affiliates are 70 licensed pursuant to section 16-245.
 - (2) Not later than October 1, 1999, the Department of Public Utility Control shall establish the standard offer for each electric distribution company, effective January 1, 2000, which shall allocate the costs of such company among electric transmission and distribution services, electric generation services, the competitive transition assessment and the systems benefits charge. The department shall hold a hearing that shall be conducted as a contested case in accordance with chapter 54 to establish the standard offer. The standard offer shall provide that the total rate charged under the standard offer, including electric transmission and distribution services, the conservation and load

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management program charge described in section 16-245m, the renewable energy investment charge described in section 16-245n, electric generation services, the competitive transition assessment and the systems benefits charge shall be at least ten per cent less than the base rates, as defined in section 16-244a, in effect on December 31, 1996. The standard offer shall be adjusted to the extent of any increase or decrease in state taxes attributable to sections 12-264 and 12-265 and any other increase or decrease in state or federal taxes resulting from a change in state or federal law and shall continue to be adjusted during such period pursuant to section 16-19b. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 16-19b, the provisions of said section 16-19b shall apply to electric distribution companies. The standard offer may be adjusted, by an increase or decrease, to the extent approved by the department, in the event that (A) the revenue requirements of the company are affected as the result of changes in (i) legislative enactments other than public act 98-28*, (ii) administrative requirements, or (iii) accounting standards occurring after July 1, 1998, provided such accounting standards are adopted by entities independent of the company that have authority to issue such standards, or (B) an electric distribution company incurs extraordinary and unanticipated expenses required for the provision of safe and reliable electric service to the extent necessary to provide such service. Savings attributable to a reduction in taxes shall not be shifted between customer classes.

- (3) The price reduction provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection shall not apply to customers who, on or after July 1, 1998, are purchasing electric services from an electric company or electric distribution company, as the case may be, under a special contract or flexible rate tariff, and the company's filed standard offer tariffs shall reflect that such customers shall not receive the standard offer price reduction.
- (b) (1) (A) On and after January 1, 2004, each electric distribution company shall make available to all customers in its service area, the provision of electric generation and distribution services through a

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transitional standard offer. Under the transitional standard offer, a 115 116 customer shall receive electric services at a rate established by the 117 Department of Public Utility Control pursuant to subdivision (2) of 118 this subsection. Each electric distribution company shall provide 119 electric generation services in accordance with such option to any 120 customer who affirmatively chooses to receive electric generation 121 services pursuant to the transitional standard offer or does not or is 122 unable to arrange for or maintain electric generation services with an 123 electric supplier. The transitional standard offer shall terminate on 124 December 31, 2006. While providing electric generation services under 125 the transitional standard offer, an electric distribution company may 126 provide electric generation services through any of its generation 127 entities or affiliates, provided such entities or affiliates are licensed 128 pursuant to section 16-245.

- (B) The department shall conduct a proceeding to determine whether a practical, effective, and cost-effective process exists under which an electric customer, when initiating electric service, may receive information regarding selecting electric generating services from a qualified entity. The department shall complete such proceeding on or before December 1, 2005, and shall implement the resulting decision on or before March 1, 2006, or on such later date that the department considers appropriate. An electric distribution company's costs of participating in the proceeding and implementing the results of the department's decision shall be recoverable by the company as generation services costs through an adjustment mechanism as approved by the department.
- 141 (2) (A) Not later than December 15, 2003, the Department of Public 142 Utility Control shall establish the transitional standard offer for each 143 electric distribution company, effective January 1, 2004.
 - (B) The department shall hold a hearing that shall be conducted as a contested case in accordance with chapter 54 to establish the transitional standard offer. The transitional standard offer shall provide that the total rate charged under the transitional standard

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offer, including electric transmission and distribution services, the conservation and load management program charge described in section 16-245m, the renewable energy investment charge described in section 16-245n, electric generation services, the competitive transition assessment and the systems benefits charge, and excluding federally mandated congestion costs, shall not exceed the base rates, as defined in section 16-244a, in effect on December 31, 1996, excluding any rate reduction ordered by the department on September 26, 2002.

- (C) (i) Each electric distribution company shall, on or before January 1, 2004, file with the department an application for an amendment of rates pursuant to section 16-19, which application shall include a four-year plan for the provision of electric transmission and distribution services. The department shall conduct a contested case proceeding pursuant to sections 16-19 and 16-19e to approve, reject or modify the application and plan. Upon the approval of such plan, as filed or as modified by the department, the department shall order that such plan shall establish the electric transmission and distribution services component of the transitional standard offer.
- (ii) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subparagraph, an electric distribution company that, on or after September 1, 2002, completed a proceeding pursuant to sections 16-19 and 16-19e, shall not be required to file an application for an amendment of rates as required by this subparagraph. The department shall establish the electric transmission and distribution services component of the transitional standard offer for any such company equal to the electric transmission and distribution services component of the standard offer established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section in effect on July 1, 2003, for such company. If such electric distribution company applies to the department, pursuant to section 16-19, for an amendment of its rates on or before December 31, 2006, the application of the electric distribution company shall include a four-year plan.
- (D) The transitional standard offer (i) shall be adjusted to the extent of any increase or decrease in state taxes attributable to sections 12-264

and 12-265 and any other increase or decrease in state or federal taxes resulting from a change in state or federal law, (ii) shall be adjusted to provide for the cost of contracts under subdivision (2) of subsection (j) of this section and the administrative costs for the procurement of such contracts, and (iii) shall continue to be adjusted during such period pursuant to section 16-19b. Savings attributable to a reduction in taxes shall not be shifted between customer classes. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 16-19b, the provisions of section 16-19b shall apply to electric distribution companies.

- (E) The transitional standard offer may be adjusted, by an increase or decrease, to the extent approved by the department, in the event that (i) the revenue requirements of the company are affected as the result of changes in (I) legislative enactments other than public act 03-135 or public act 98-28, (II) administrative requirements, or (III) accounting standards adopted after July 1, 2003, provided such accounting standards are adopted by entities that are independent of the company and have authority to issue such standards, or (ii) an electric distribution company incurs extraordinary and unanticipated expenses required for the provision of safe and reliable electric service to the extent necessary to provide such service.
- (3) The price provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection shall not apply to customers who, on or after July 1, 2003, purchase electric services from an electric company or electric distribution company, as the case may be, under a special contract or flexible rate tariff, provided the company's filed transitional standard offer tariffs shall reflect that such customers shall not receive the transitional standard offer price during the term of said contract or tariff.
- (4) (A) In addition to its costs received pursuant to subsection (h) of this section, as compensation for providing transitional standard offer service, each electric distribution company shall receive an amount equal to five-tenths of one mill per kilowatt hour. Revenues from such compensation shall not be included in calculating the electric distribution company's earnings for purposes of, or in determining

whether its rates are just and reasonable under, sections 16-19, 16-19a and 16-19e, including an earnings sharing mechanism. In addition, each electric distribution company may earn compensation for mitigating the prices of the contracts for the provision of electric generation services, as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection.

- (B) The department shall conduct a contested case proceeding pursuant to the provisions of chapter 54 to establish an incentive plan for the procurement of long-term contracts for transitional standard offer service by an electric distribution company. The incentive plan shall be based upon a comparison of the actual average firm full requirements service contract price for electricity obtained by the electric distribution company compared to the regional average firm full requirements service contract price for electricity, adjusted for such variables as the department deems appropriate, including, but not limited to, differences in locational marginal pricing. If the actual average firm full requirements service contract price obtained by the electric distribution company is less than the actual regional average firm full requirements service contract price for the previous year, the department shall split five-tenths of one mill per kilowatt hour equally between ratepayers and the company. Revenues from such incentive plan shall not be included in calculating the electric distribution company's earnings for purposes of, or in determining whether its rates are just and reasonable under sections 16-19, 16-19a and 16-19e. The department may, as it deems necessary, retain a third party entity with expertise in energy procurement to assist with the development of such incentive plan.
- (c) (1) On and after January 1, 2007, each electric distribution company shall provide electric generation services through standard service to any customer who (A) does not arrange for or is not receiving electric generation services from an electric supplier, and (B) does not use a demand meter or has a maximum demand of less than five hundred kilowatts and on or after January 1, 2010, has a maximum demand of less than five hundred kilowatts but more than one hundred kilowatts.

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(2) Not later than October 1, 2006, and periodically as required by subdivision (3) of this subsection, but not more often than every calendar quarter, the Department of Public Utility Control shall establish the standard service price for such customers pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection. Each electric distribution company shall recover the actual net costs of procuring and providing electric generation services pursuant to this subsection, provided such company mitigates the costs it incurs for the procurement of electric generation services for customers who are no longer receiving service pursuant to this subsection.

(3) An electric distribution company providing electric generation services pursuant to this subsection shall mitigate the variation of the price of the service offered to its customers by procuring electric generation services contracts in the manner prescribed in a plan approved by the department. Such plan shall require the procurement of a portfolio of service contracts sufficient to meet the projected load of the electric distribution company, which may be separated into two supply segments based on customers with maximum demands of less than one hundred kilowatts and one hundred kilowatts or more. Such plan shall require that the portfolio of service contracts be procured in an overlapping pattern of fixed periods at such times and in such manner and duration as the department determines to be most likely to produce just, reasonable and reasonably stable retail rates while reflecting underlying wholesale market prices over time. The portfolio of contracts shall be assembled in such manner as to invite competition; guard against favoritism, improvidence, extravagance, fraud and corruption; and secure a reliable electricity supply while avoiding unusual, anomalous or excessive pricing. The portfolio of contracts procured under such plan shall be for terms of not less than six months, provided contracts for shorter periods may be procured under such conditions as the department shall prescribe to (A) ensure the lowest rates possible for end-use customers; (B) ensure reliable service under extraordinary circumstances; and (C) ensure the prudent management of the contract portfolio. An electric distribution

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company may receive a bid for an electric generation services contract from any of its generation entities or affiliates, provided such generation entity or affiliate submits its bid the business day preceding the first day on which an unaffiliated electric supplier may submit its bid and further provided the electric distribution company and the generation entity or affiliate are in compliance with the code of conduct established in section 16-244h.

- (4) The department, in consultation with the Office of Consumer Counsel, shall retain the services of a third-party entity with expertise in the area of energy procurement to oversee the initial development of the request for proposals and the procurement of contracts by an electric distribution company for the provision of electric generation services offered pursuant to this subsection. Costs associated with the retention of such third-party entity shall be included in the cost of electric generation services that is included in such price.
- (5) Each bidder for a standard service contract shall submit its bid to the electric distribution company and the third-party entity who shall jointly review the bids and submit an overview of all bids together with a joint recommendation to the department as to the preferred bidders. The department may, within ten business days of submission of the overview, reject the recommendation regarding preferred bidders. In the event that the department rejects the preferred bids, the electric distribution company and the third-party entity shall rebid the service pursuant to this subdivision.
- (d) On and after January 1, 2010, each electric distribution company shall make available electric generation services through standard service to any customer who has a maximum demand of less than one hundred kilowatts pursuant to subsection (b) of section 16-244b, as amended by this act.
- [(d)] (e) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section regarding the electric generation services component of the transitional standard offer or the procurement of electric generation services under standard

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314 service, section 16-244h or 16-2450, the Department of Public Utility 315 Control may, from time to time, direct an electric distribution company 316 to offer, through an electric supplier or electric suppliers, before 317 January 1, 2007, one or more alternative transitional standard offer 318 options, [or,] on or after January 1, 2007, one or more alternative 319 standard service options or, on or after January 1, 2010, one or more 320 alternative standard service options. Such alternative options shall 321 include, but not be limited to, an option that consists of the provision 322 of electric generation services that exceed the renewable portfolio 323 standards established in section 16-245a and may include an option 324 that utilizes strategies or technologies that reduce the overall 325 consumption of electricity of the customer. On or after January 1, 2010, such alternative options shall involve the provision of electric 326 327 generation services through standard service coupled with an option 328 that consists of the provision of electric generation services that exceed 329 the renewable portfolio standards established pursuant to section 16-330 245a and may include an option that involves the provision of electric 331 generation services through standard service while also using 332 strategies or technologies that reduce the overall consumption of 333 electricity by the customer.

- (2) (A) The department shall develop such alternative option or options in a contested case conducted in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54. The department shall determine the terms and conditions of such alternative option or options, including, but not limited to, (i) the minimum contract terms, including pricing, length and termination of the contract, and (ii) the minimum percentage of electricity derived from Class I or Class II renewable energy sources, if applicable. The electric distribution company shall, under the supervision of the department, subsequently conduct a bidding process in order to solicit electric suppliers to provide such alternative option or options.
- 345 (B) The department may reject some or all of the bids received pursuant to the bidding process.

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347 (3) The department may require an electric supplier to provide 348 forms of assurance to satisfy the department that the contracts 349 resulting from the bidding process will be fulfilled.

- (4) An electric supplier who fails to fulfill its contractual obligations resulting from this subdivision shall be subject to civil penalties, in accordance with the provisions of section 16-41, or the suspension or revocation of such supplier's license or a prohibition on the acceptance of new customers, following a hearing that is conducted as a contested case, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.
- [(e)] (f) (1) On and after January 1, 2007, an electric distribution company shall serve customers that are not eligible to receive standard service pursuant to subsection (c) of this section as the supplier of last resort. This subsection shall not apply to customers purchasing power under contracts entered into pursuant to section 16-19hh.
- (2) An electric distribution company shall procure electricity at least every calendar quarter to provide electric generation services to customers pursuant to this subsection. The Department of Public Utility Control shall determine a price for such customers that reflects the full cost of providing the electricity on a monthly basis. Each electric distribution company shall recover the actual net costs of procuring and providing electric generation services pursuant to this subsection, provided such company mitigates the costs it incurs for the procurement of electric generation services for customers that are no longer receiving service pursuant to this subsection.
- (3) On and after January 1, 2010, an electric distribution company may elect to provide alternative electricity supply offerings to customers receiving supplier of last resort service pursuant to subsection (f) of this section. The department shall approve such offerings which may include, but not be limited to: (A) Providing electric generation services to such customers pursuant to one or more specific power supply contracts for predetermined periods with fixed prices; (B) providing electric generation services to such customers by

including such customers within the supply portfolio procured for standard service pursuant to subsection (c) of this section and allowing such portfolio to be used to provide electric generation services to such customers; or (C) providing other alternatives that may result in lower priced options for such customers, provided such offerings may require customers who elect such offerings to continue to take such service for prespecified periods. Such offerings shall be made to customers no more often than two times per year and shall not be for periods that exceed two years. The department shall determine a price for such customers that reflects the full cost of procuring and providing electric generation service to such customers. Each electric distribution company shall recover the actual costs of procuring and providing electric generation services pursuant to this subdivision. The alternative supply offered by an electric distribution company to such customers pursuant to this subdivision shall be in addition to, and shall not result in the elimination of, the electricity procured at least every calendar quarter pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection.

[(f)] (g) On and after January 1, 2000, and until such time the regional independent system operator implements procedures for the provision of back-up power to the satisfaction of the Department of Public Utility Control, each electric distribution company shall provide electric generation services to any customer who has entered into a service contract with an electric supplier that fails to provide electric generation services for reasons other than the customer's failure to pay for such services. Between January 1, 2000, and December 31, 2006, an electric distribution company may procure electric generation services through a competitive bidding process or through any of its generation entities or affiliates. On and after January 1, 2007, such company shall procure electric generation services through a competitive bidding process pursuant to a plan submitted by the electric distribution company and approved by the department. Such company may procure electric generation services through any of its generation entities or affiliates, provided such entity or affiliate is the lowest qualified bidder and provided further any such entity or affiliate is

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413 licensed pursuant to section 16-245.

[(g)] (h) An electric distribution company is not required to be licensed pursuant to section 16-245 to provide standard offer electric generation services in accordance with subsection (a) of this section, transitional standard offer service pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, standard service pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, supplier of last resort service pursuant to subsection [(e)] (f) of this section or back-up electric generation service pursuant to subsection [(f)] (g) of this section.

- [(h)] (i) The electric distribution company shall be entitled to recover reasonable costs incurred as a result of providing standard offer electric generation services pursuant to the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, transitional standard offer service pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, standard service pursuant to subsection (c) of this section or back-up electric generation service pursuant to subsection [(f)] (g) of this section. The provisions of this section and section 16-244a shall satisfy the requirements of section 16-19a until January 1, 2007.
- [(i)] (j) The Department of Public Utility Control shall establish, by regulations adopted pursuant to chapter 54, procedures for when and how a customer is notified that his electric supplier has defaulted and of the need for the customer to choose a new electric supplier within a reasonable period of time.
- [(j)] (k) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection [(d)] (e) of this section regarding an alternative transitional standard offer option or an alternative standard service option, an electric distribution company providing transitional standard offer service, standard service, supplier of last resort service or back-up electric generation service in accordance with this section shall contract with its wholesale suppliers to comply with the renewable portfolio standards. The Department of Public Utility Control shall annually conduct a contested case, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, in

order to determine whether the electric distribution company's wholesale suppliers met the renewable portfolio standards during the preceding year. An electric distribution company shall include a provision in its contract with each wholesale supplier that requires the wholesale supplier to pay the electric distribution company an amount of five and one-half cents per kilowatt hour if the wholesale supplier fails to comply with the renewable portfolio standards during the subject annual period. The electric distribution company shall promptly transfer any payment received from the wholesale supplier for the failure to meet the renewable portfolio standards to the Renewable Energy Investment Fund for the development of Class I renewable energy sources. Any payment made pursuant to this section shall not be considered revenue or income to the electric distribution company.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection [(d)] (e) of this section regarding an alternative transitional standard offer option or an alternative standard service option, an electric distribution company providing transitional standard offer service, standard service, supplier of last resort service or back-up electric generation service in accordance with this section shall, not later than July 1, 2008, file with the Department of Public Utility Control for its approval one or more long-term power purchase contracts from Class I renewable energy source projects that receive funding from the Renewable Energy Investment Fund and that are not less than one megawatt in size, at a price that is either, at the determination of the project owner, (A) not more than the total of the comparable wholesale market price for generation plus five and one-half cents per kilowatt hour, or (B) fifty per cent of the wholesale market electricity cost at the point at which transmission lines intersect with each other or interface with the distribution system, plus the project cost of fuel indexed to natural gas futures contracts on the New York Mercantile Exchange at the natural gas pipeline interchange located in Vermillion Parish, Louisiana that serves as the delivery point for such futures contracts, plus the fuel delivery charge for transporting fuel to the project, plus five and one-

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half cents per kilowatt hour. In its approval of such contracts, the department shall give preference to purchase contracts from those projects that would provide a financial benefit to ratepayers or would enhance the reliability of the electric transmission system of the state. Such projects shall be located in this state. The owner of a fuel cell project principally manufactured in this state shall be allocated all available air emissions credits and tax credits attributable to the project and no less than fifty per cent of the energy credits in the Class I renewable energy credits program established in section 16-245a attributable to the project. On and after October 1, 2007, and until September 30, 2008, such contracts shall be comprised of not less than a total, apportioned among each electric distribution company, of one hundred twenty-five megawatts; and on and after October 1, 2008, such contracts shall be comprised of not less than a total, apportioned among each electrical distribution company, of one hundred fifty megawatts. The cost of such contracts and the administrative costs for the procurement of such contracts directly incurred shall be eligible for inclusion in the adjustment to the transitional standard offer as provided in this section and any subsequent rates for standard service, provided such contracts are for a period of time sufficient to provide financing for such projects, but not less than ten years, and are for projects which began operation on or after July 1, 2003. Except as provided in this subdivision, the amount from Class I renewable energy sources contracted under such contracts shall be applied to reduce the applicable Class I renewable energy source portfolio standards. For purposes of this subdivision, the department's determination of the comparable wholesale market price for generation shall be based upon a reasonable estimate. On or before September 1, 2007, the department, in consultation with the Office of Consumer Counsel and the Renewable Energy Investments Advisory Council, shall study the operation of such renewable energy contracts and report its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy.

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513 [(k)] (l) (1) As used in this section:

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- (A) "Participating electric supplier" means an electric supplier that is licensed by the department to provide electric service, pursuant to this subsection, to residential or small commercial customers.
 - (B) "Residential customer" means a customer who is eligible for standard service and who takes electric distribution-related service from an electric distribution company pursuant to a residential tariff.
- (C) "Small commercial customer" means a customer who is eligible for standard service and who takes electric distribution-related service from an electric distribution company pursuant to a small commercial tariff.
 - (D) "Qualifying electric offer" means an offer to provide full requirements commodity electric service and all other generation-related service to a residential or small commercial customer at a fixed price per kilowatt hour for a term of no less than one year.
 - (2) In the manner determined by the department, residential or small commercial service customers (A) initiating new utility service, (B) reinitiating service following a change of residence or business location, (C) making an inquiry regarding their utility rates, or (D) seeking information regarding energy efficiency shall be offered the option to learn about their ability to enroll with a participating electric supplier. Customers expressing an interest to learn about their electric supply options shall be informed of the qualifying electric offers then available from participating electric suppliers. The electric distribution companies shall describe then available qualifying electric offers through a method reviewed and approved by the department. The information conveyed to customers expressing an interest to learn about their electric supply options shall include, at a minimum, the price and term of the available electric supply option. Customers expressing an interest in a particular qualifying electric offer shall be immediately transferred to a call center operated by that participating electric supplier.

(3) Not later than September 1, 2007, the department shall establish terms and conditions under which a participating electric supplier can be included in the referral program described in subdivision (2) of this subsection. Such terms shall include, but not be limited to, requiring participating electrical suppliers to offer time-of-use and real-time use rates to residential customers.

- (4) Each calendar quarter, participating electric suppliers shall be allowed to list qualifying offers to provide electric generation service to residential and small commercial customers with each customer's utility bill. The department shall determine the manner such information is presented in customers' utility bills.
- (5) Any customer that receives electric generation service from a participating electric supplier may return to standard service or may choose another participating electric supplier at any time, including during the qualifying electric offer, without the imposition of any additional charges. Any customer that is receiving electric generation service from an electric distribution company pursuant to standard service can switch to another participating electric supplier at any time without the imposition of additional charges.
- [(l)] (m) Each electric distribution company shall offer to bill customers on behalf of participating electric suppliers and to pay such suppliers in a timely manner the amounts due such suppliers from customers for generation services, less a percentage of such amounts that reflects uncollectible bills and overdue payments as approved by the Department of Public Utility Control.
- [(m)] (n) On or before July 1, 2007, the Department of Public Utility Control shall initiate a proceeding to examine whether electric supplier bills rendered pursuant to section 16-245d and any regulations adopted thereunder sufficiently enable customers to compare pricing policies and charges among electric suppliers.
- [(n)] (o) Nothing in the provisions of this section shall preclude an electric distribution company from entering into standard service

577 supply contracts or standard service supply components with electric 578 generating facilities.

Sec. 503. Subdivision (45) of subsection (a) of section 16-1 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(45) "Sustainable biomass" means biomass that is cultivated and harvested in a sustainable manner. "Sustainable biomass" does not mean construction and demolition waste, as defined in section 22a-208x, finished biomass products from sawmills, paper mills or stud mills, organic refuse fuel derived separately from municipal solid waste, or biomass from old growth timber stands, except where (A) such biomass is used in a biomass gasification plant that received funding prior to May 1, 2006, from the Renewable Energy Investment Fund established pursuant to section 16-245n, [or] (B) the energy derived from such biomass is subject to a long-term power purchase contract pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection [(j)] (k) of section 16-244c, as amended by this act, entered into prior to May 1, 2006, (C) such biomass is used in a renewable energy facility that is certified as a Class I renewable energy source by the department until such time as the department certifies that any biomass gasification plant, as defined in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, is operational and accepting such biomass, in an amount not to exceed one hundred forty thousand tons annually, is used in a renewable energy facility that was certified as a Class I renewable energy source by the department prior to December 31, 2007, and uses biomass, including construction and demolition waste, as defined in section 22a-208x, from a Connecticutsited transfer station and volume-reduction facility that generated biomass during calendar year 2007 that was used during calendar year 2007 to generate Class I renewable energy certificates, or (D) in the event there is no facility as described in subparagraph (A) or (C) of this subdivision accepting such biomass, in an amount not to exceed one hundred forty thousand tons annually, is used in one or more other renewable energy facilities certified either as a Class I or Class II renewable energy source by the department, provided such facilities

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611 use biomass, including construction and demolition waste, as defined 612 in [said] section 22a-208x, from a Connecticut-sited transfer station and 613 volume-reduction facility that generated biomass during calendar year 614 2007 that was used during calendar year 2007 to generate Class I 615 renewable energy certificates. Notwithstanding the provisions of 616 subparagraphs (C) and (D) of this subdivision, the amount of biomass 617 specified in said subparagraphs shall not apply to a biomass 618 gasification plant, as defined in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

- Sec. 504. Subsection (b) of section 16a-47a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 622 (b) The goals of the campaign established pursuant to subsection (a) 623 of this section shall include, but not be limited to, educating electric 624 consumers regarding (1) the benefits of pursuing strategies that increase energy efficiency, including information on the Connecticut 625 626 electric efficiency partner program established pursuant to section 16a-627 46e and combined heat and power technologies, (2) the real-time 628 energy reports prepared pursuant to section 16a-47d and the real-time 629 energy alert system prepared pursuant to section 61 of public act 07-630 242, and (3) the option of choosing participating electric suppliers, as 631 defined in subsection [(k)] (1) of section 16-244c, as amended by this 632 act.
- Sec. 505. Subsection (k) of section 16-245 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
 - (k) Any licensee who fails to comply with a license condition or who violates any provision of this section, except for the renewable portfolio standards contained in subsection (g) of this section, shall be subject to civil penalties by the Department of Public Utility Control in accordance with section 16-41, or the suspension or revocation of such license or a prohibition on accepting new customers following a hearing that is conducted as a contested case in accordance with

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643 chapter 54. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection [(d)] (e) of section 16-244c, as amended by this act, regarding an alternative 644 645 transitional standard offer option or an alternative standard service 646 option, the department shall require a payment by a licensee that fails 647 to comply with the renewable portfolio standards in accordance with 648 subdivision (4) of subsection (g) of this section in the amount of five 649 and one-half cents per kilowatt hour. The department shall allocate such payment to the Renewable Energy Investment Fund for the 650 651 development of Class I renewable energy sources."